Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~substance, characterized in that it is a~~ polycyclic macrolactone ~~and can be~~which is produced by a representative of the bacterial genus *Verrucosispora*.

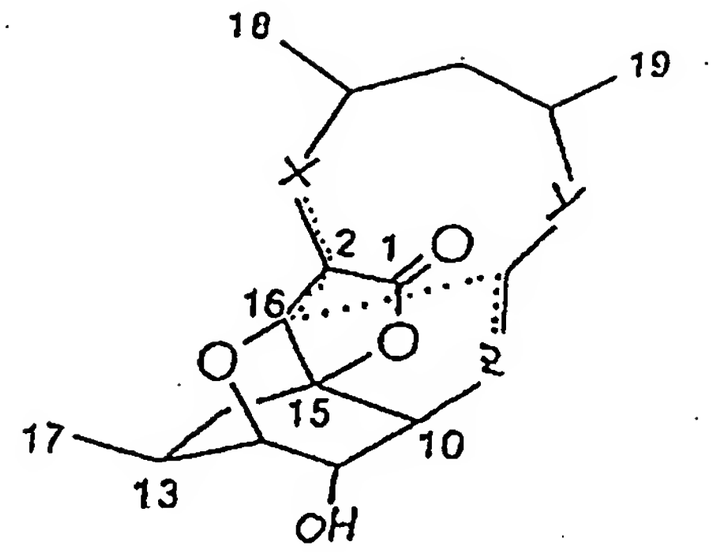
2. (Currently Amended) A substance ~~as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that it exhibits~~exhibiting a pharmacological effect, ~~in particular an antibiotic effect~~comprising the polycyclic macrolactone of Claim 1.

3. (Currently Amended) A substance ~~as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that it exhibits~~exhibiting an antibiotic effect towards Gram-positive bacteria, comprising the polycyclic macrolactone of Claim 1.

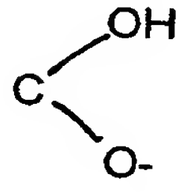
4. (Currently Amended) ~~A substance~~The polycyclic macrolactone as claimed in Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the representative of the bacterial genus *Verrucosispora* is ~~the~~ bacterial strain AB 18-032 (DSM 15899).

5. (Currently Amended) ~~A substance, in particular as claimed in~~The polycyclic macrolactone of Claim 1, characterized by having the ~~general~~structure of Formula ~~I~~(I) ~~together with all the possible relative configurations~~

(I)



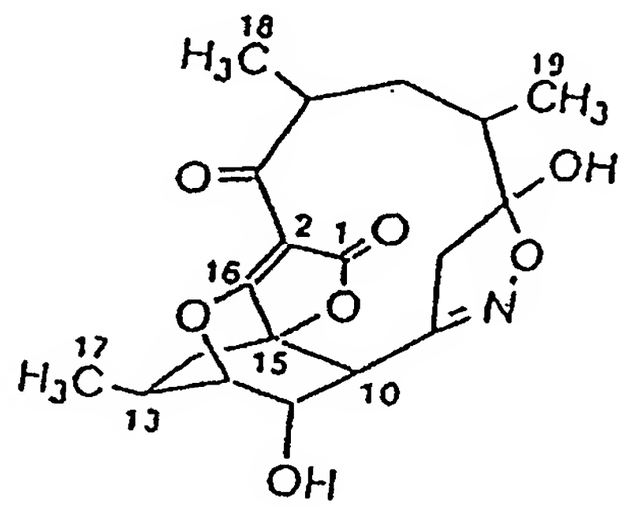
where X is C=O or C-OH,

Y is  or C=O

Z is C=N-~~or~~, CH or CH_2.

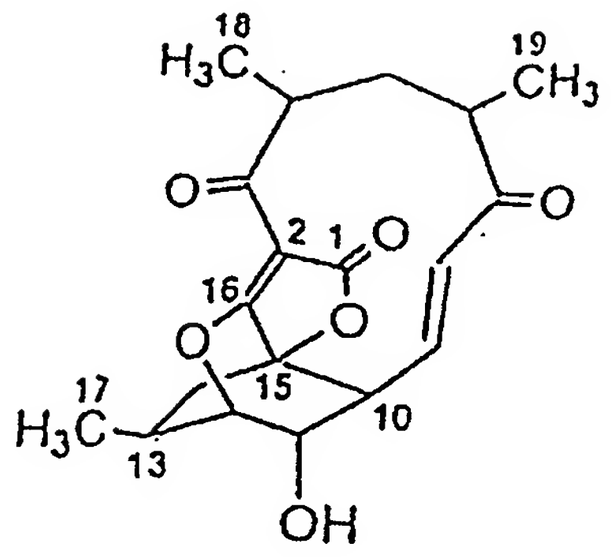
6. (Currently Amended) ~~A substance as claimed in claim 5~~The polycyclic macrolactone of Claim 5, characterized by having the structure of Formula II ~~together with all the possible relative configurations~~

(II)



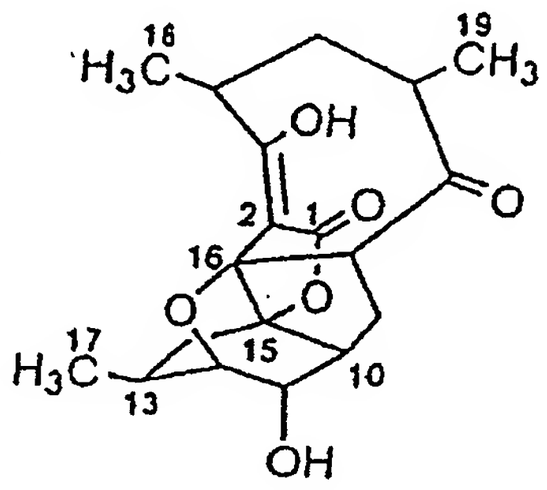
7. (Currently Amended) ~~A substance as claimed in claim 5~~The polycyclic macrolactone of Claim 5, characterized by having the structure of Formula III ~~together with all the possible relative configurations~~

(III)



8. (Currently Amended) ~~A substance as claimed in claim 5~~The polycyclic macrolactone of Claim 5, characterized by having the structure of Formula IV ~~together with all the possible relative configurations~~

(IV)



9. (Currently Amended) A substance~~, in particular as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that it~~ which inhibits ~~the synthesis of para-aminobenzoic acid, in particular~~ the synthesis of para-aminobenzoic acid from chorismic acid, comprising the polycyclic macrolactone of Claim 1.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~A substance, in particular as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that it is a~~The polycyclic macrolactone ~~and, as constituent structures, exhibits~~of Claim 1, containing at least one oxabicyclo system and at least one Michael system as a double bond system.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition~~, characterized in that it comprises~~ comprising at least one ~~substance~~polycyclic macrolactone as claimed in Claim 1 and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

13. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition~~, characterized in that it comprises~~ comprising at least one substance which inhibits the synthesis of para-aminobenzoic acid from chorismic acid and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~The use of a substance as claimed in Claim 1 for~~A method of treating infectious diseases in a subject which are at least concomitantly influenced by bacteria and/or protozoa, comprising the step of administering to the subject the polycyclic macrolactone of Claim 1.

15.-21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously Presented) A microorganism, characterized in that it is able to produce at least one substance as claimed in Claim 1.

23. (Original) A microorganism as claimed in claim 22, characterized in that it is a strain of the bacterial genus *Verrucosispora*, or a mutant thereof.

24. (Previously Presented) A microorganism, in particular as claimed in claim 22, characterized in that it is the strain AB 18-032 (DSM 15899) of the bacterial genus *Verrucosispora*, or a mutant thereof.

25. (Previously Presented) A process for preparing at least one substance comprising the procedural steps of:

a) culturing a microorganism as claimed in Claim 22,

b) obtaining a culture supernatant from the culture,

c) where appropriate, preparing a culture filtrate, and

d) where appropriate, isolating one or more substances from the culture supernatant and/or the culture filtrate.

26. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing the at least one substance as claimed in Claim 22, comprising the procedural steps of:

a) culturing ~~a~~the microorganism ~~as claimed in Claim 22~~, and

b) isolating one or more substances from the microorganism.

27. (New) A method of treating infectious diseases in a subject which are at least concomitantly influenced by bacteria or protozoa, comprising the step of administering to the subject a substance which inhibits the synthesis of para-aminobenzoic acid from chorismic acid.

28. (New) The method of Claim 14, wherein at least some of the bacteria are Gram-positive bacteria.

29. (New) The method of Claim 27, wherein at least some of the bacteria are Gram-positive bacteria.

30. (New) The method of Claim 14, wherein the bacteria or protozoa are multiresistant to antibiotics.

31. (New) The method of Claim 27, wherein the bacteria or protozoa are multiresistant to antibiotics.

32. (New) A microorganism capable of producing the polycyclic macrolactone of Claim 1.

33. (New) The microorganism of Claim 32, wherein said microorganism is a strain or mutant of *Verrucosispora*.

34. (New) The microorganism of Claim 32, wherein said microorganism is *Verrucosispora* AB 18-032 or a mutant thereof.